



DECLARATION OF CLAIMS

#3

APPLICATION NUMBER

09/995,032

CONFIRMATION NO.

9680

FILING RECEIPT DATE

11/26/2001

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

JAMES J. CUNNINGHAM

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ORIGINALLY FILED

CLAIM #1 - The "POST OPERATIVE KNEE FLEXER" was created by me for the purpose of achieving the normal bending of the knee after total knee replacement surgery.

CLAIM #2 - After total knee -replacement surgery, when the wound has sufficiently healed; it is required that the patient's knee bending and movement be reestablished as soon as possible. This is done to stretch the tendons and the ligaments to their normal flexibility. This is achieved under the supervision of a Physical Therapist. The therapist sits the patient upright on a chair or stool and by pushing on the patient's ankle bends the knee. This is extremely painful and stressful to the patient. The patient tends to resist this procedure. If a 90 degree bend is not achieved in a reasonable length of time further surgery is necessary.

CLAIM #3 - The "POST OPERATIVE KNEE FLEXER" was developed by me when my wife had a total knee replacement and was assigned a Physical Therapist to help with her rehabilitation at home. She was not responding to the treatment because she feared the pain connected to the therapist bending her knee. The therapist told my wife that the doctor said that if a 90 degree bend was not achieved on the next visit my wife would have to go back to the hospital. The therapist was to come back to our home the following day. After my plan for a machine that might help, I bought the material and constructed the unit. When the therapist arrived I told her about this machine. Her comment was "What have we got to lose, let's try it". My wife sat in the chair-like machine. The therapist stood back and coached my wife within 30 minutes my wife had achieved the required 90 degree bend. The therapist's comment was, "Fantastic".

CLAIM #4 - The "POST OPERATIVE KNEE FLEXER" is totally operated by the patient under the supervision and coaching of the therapist and is used for the complete rehabilitation after knee replacement.

CLAIM #5 - I have added other features to the machine for the patient's size and safety. . The patient can witness their own degree of bend on a protractor attached to the machine.

James J. Cunningham - - Inventor: James J. Cunningham